

JOURNAL 1979

Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas

Jan 1, 1979

A combination of low temperatures, uptake of water as ice and an ice jam in river lowered flow of water at intake valves for Lawrence water (24 hrs). 12 inches of snow on ground from snow of 2 days ago.

Jan 2, 1979

Last night temperature -9°F and a record for Lawrence. Birds continued to feed at feeder in normal activity and numbers. ^{Jan. 9, 1979} First Brown-headed cowbird at feeder this winter. Observed at 11:00 A.M. It is completely compatible with the Eng. sparrow, both species almost touching each other when feeding. The Eng. sparrows feed from four to twenty seconds at the feeder and then fly to a bush eight feet away, returning to feeder approx. 3 to 4 seconds later. The cowbird leaves the feeder with the sparrows but remains in bush for a period of 3 or 4 feeding-flight cycles of the sparrows. Other birds at feeder on an average feeding period are: 35 Eng sparrows, 1 slate-colored junco, 4 tree sparrows, 1 cowbird. Other birds that frequently visit are bluejay 3, red-bellied woodpecker (1 every 3 days), starling 8, black-capped chickadees (1 every 4 days), Harris sparrow (8 earlier in season but not lately), goldfinches (2 or 3 every 6 days), cardinal (1 or 2 2 or 3 times a day). There seems to be a depreciation in numbers of juncos this year.

Jan 9, 1979

First meadowlark at feeder at 402 Yorkshire Dr.

Kaw River, Leecompton area, Douglas and Jefferson Counties, Kansas

Jan. 10, 1979

made complete census of bald eagles along Kaw River (see map). Left home at 402 Yorkshire Dr., Lawrence at mileage 97967.6, temp. 12°F, sky completely overcast, slight wind, 11:30 A.M. will keep list of meadowlarks observed along edge of roads where they are congregating for food. All fields covered with snow. Prediction is for snow this afternoon and evening. Route Peterson Rd W to Kasard, thence N to Farmers Turnpike thence W to Lake View turnoff, thence lower river road to Leecompton. at 69.6 10 meadowlarks all crouching low and at edge of road along contact with ice and snow. 69.9 15 mourning doves. 70.7 3 meadowlarks 70.9 bridge at Rouseway at Lakeview; Lake all in ice and covered with snow. 73.1 18 horned larks at edge of road along with 12 meadowlarks, the horned larks left but meadowlarks remained. 73.4 parked at dike-road contact and walked to river to N to check on eagles. The dike was almost cleared on upper W edge from wind, ordinarily the snow is fairly deep across the full breadth of the dike. At contact with riparian